

Dividends

- **Cummins Inc** paid a quarterly common stock cash dividend of US\$0.125 per share, on 3 March 2008 to shareholders of record on 22 February 2008. The dividend amount reflects the company's 2-for-1 stock split, which took effect on 2 January 2008.
www.cummins.com
- **ITT Corp** has raised its quarterly dividend by 25% to US\$0.175 per share. This first quarter 2008 cash dividend will be payable on 1 April 2008 to shareholders of record on 7 March 2008.
www.itt.com
- **Porvair** directors have recommended the payment of a final dividend of 1.2p per share for 2007 (2006: 1.1p per share) on 8 May 2008 to shareholders on the register on 4 April 2008. An interim dividend of 1.0p per share was paid on 14 September 2007.
www.porvair.com
- On 21 February 2008, the **SPX Corp** board of directors announced a quarterly dividend of US\$0.25 per common share payable on 1 April 2008, to shareholders of record on 14 March 2008.
www.spx.com
- The **3M** board has declared a dividend on the company's common stock of US\$0.50 per share for the first quarter of 2008, a 4.2% increase over the quarterly dividend paid in 2007. The dividend will be paid on 12 March 2008, to shareholders of record on 22 February 2008. This marks the company's 366th consecutive quarterly dividend and the 50th consecutive year of 3M dividend increases. "As we continue to invest in securing 3M's future as a faster-growing and more efficient enterprise, we are committed to providing our shareholders with attractive returns," said George Buckley, 3M chairman, president and CEO. Over the past five years, 3M has returned US\$16.6 billion to shareholders through dividends and share repurchases.
www.3m.com
- The **Larox** board has proposed a dividend of €0.60 for the year ended 31 December 2007. Registered shareholders on 31 March 2008 are entitled to the payment, which will be made on 7 April 2008.
www.larox.com

Para Membranes is the largest manufacturer of hollow fibre filter products in South Korea and recently tripled its production capacity after commissioning a new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility last year. Para manufactures a wide range of fibre types including PES, PS and PVDF in hollow, pleated and spiral wound formats. The company's fibres include particle, micro-filtration, ultra-filtration and nano-filtration.

Para and Prismedical are also teaming up to introduce new Para finished products to the market including under-counter systems, above counter units for resident use as well as stackable units for commercial and industrial use. These new products will be launched this spring.

"We are looking forward to introducing our products to the US market with our partner Prismedical. With their knowledge of the US market and extensive new technology distribution experience, they are a great partner to help us reach our goal of being the largest producer of hollow fibre membrane technology in the world," said Yoon Ho Sung, CEO of Para.

"We are very pleased to partner with Para Membranes, the preeminent manufacturer of hollow fibre membranes in South Korea," said Stephen Pazian, CEO of Prismedical. "With over two dozen quality check points in their new high speed manufacturing process, they make a very high quality product at a very attractive price," added Pazian.

Prismedical will be marketing Para branded as well as other finished water filtration products from companies that use Para components. The company will also pursue component HFM sales into the industrial, water cooler, above and below counter filter, shower, faucet and municipal water filtration markets.

For further information, visit www.paraone.com and www.prismedical.com

Flanders teams up with major US DIY retailer

Flanders Corp has entered into a material supply agreement with Lowe's, the US do-it-yourself retailer, to nationally supply one-inch pleated and flat panel nestable air filters.

Linda Hermann, Flanders' vice president of Retail Sales, Marketing and Strategic Sourcing, said: "This is an exciting time for

our company. The Retail Division is forecasted to achieve US\$110 million of sales in 2008 based on the current customer base forecasts. We are already seeing positive consumer response to our marketing. Full page magazine advertisements are published, strategic key market billboards are in place, and advertising during nationally televised sports events are secured."

Flanders' new line of Naturalaire products will be with retailers in 2008. The filtration company is also developing a new line of Arm & Hammer branded air filters.

For further information visit www.flanderscorp.com

Freudenberg Nonwovens shuts 2 auto production lines in Kentucky

Freudenberg Nonwovens is to cease production on two manufacturing lines at its Hopkinsville, Kentucky, USA facility.

One line produces staple fibre/binderbond nonwovens and the second is an adhesive web operation, both serving the North American automotive market.

Freudenberg's Filtration Division will continue operations from the Hopkinsville location as will Freudenberg Vitech LP which serves the North American automotive market. Spunlaid and staple fibre operations in Durham, North Carolina will continue to serve the North American interlining, industrial and building products segments as well as the automotive market.

The company blamed declining production volume year over year for the closures. "We have been working with the effected customers developing supply alternatives," said Stephan Liozu, vice president & general manager of Freudenberg's Spunlaid Division North America. "We will be transferring business associated with the two lines from the Hopkinsville facility to our operations in Durham, North Carolina. We stand committed to servicing our customer base in the North American automotive market and to bringing new nonwovens technologies and solutions to our customers."

For further information, visit www.nonwovens-group.com